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Press Release

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Manager

2nd SPS Production Plant in Malaysia Commences Commercial Operation

(Idemitsu Advanced Materials (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd. (President: Hideki Ishiwa), a subsidiary of Idemitsu Kosan Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director, President and Chief Executive Officer: Shunichi Kito), has newly constructed a second SPS (syndiotactic polystyrene) production plant in Pasir Gudang, Johor, Malaysia, and launched commercial operation in November 2023.

The production capacity of this plant is 9,000 tons per year, and with the second SPS production plant in operation, the production scale of SPS resin, our proprietary material, will be doubled. The new two-location system with the first SPS production plant at the Chiba Complex (Location: Ichihara City, Chiba Prefecture; General Manager: Hiroshi Akiya) has realized a more stable production and supply system.



The 2nd SPS production plant where commercial operation has been launched



SPS pellet from the 2nd SPS Plant

SPS resin is a purely Japanese engineering plastic that we succeeded in synthesizing for the first time in the world in 1985 and achieved global-first commercialization in 1997. It has the characteristics of outstanding heat resistance (melting point 270°C), hot water resistance, electrical insulation, and radio wave permeability. SPS resin is widely used in automotive parts including those for electric vehicles, home appliances, and daily-use products such as tableware and microwave oven cooking containers, and the demand is expanding.

Pasir Gudang, Malaysia, where the second SPS production plant has been constructed, is one of our key manufacturing sites for petrochemical products. The construction of the plant has been promoted because it is located in Southeast Asia, where demand is expected to grow, and it is possible to procure SM (styrene monomer), the raw material for SPS, from Idemitsu SM (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd. (President: Yuki Arao), a subsidiary of Idemitsu, which is located next to the SPS plant. We will optimize supply by establishing a two-location system with the first SPS production plant, and strengthen efforts to expand sales.

Through the supply of SPS resin and other materials with various characteristics, we aim to meet social needs such as energy and resource conservation and contribute to the realization of a sustainable society.

【Overview of the second SPS production plant】

1. Location: Johor, Malaysia
2. Production capacity: 9,000 tons/year
3. Product name: XAREC™

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